

Dear Editors: The letter below from the Vice President of El Salvador Felix Ulloa, responds to an opinion article in the 2-26 edition of the Washington Post with the title "The elections in El Salvador could make or break Biden's Central America policy", It is sent via this communication by Brian Dean, Executive Director of Invest El Salvador. IES is a paid representative of the Government of El Salvador and registered accordingly under the FARA statute, If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at 202,740,0904.

Sincerely, Brian Dean  
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**Letter to the Editor** in response to 2-26-2021 Washington Post;  
*"The elections in El Salvador could make or break Biden's Central America policy".*

Dear Editors:

Enthusiasm for President Bukele among Salvadorans is the inverse of that expressed by the authors of "The elections in El Salvador could make or break Biden's Central America policy". It is correct that Bukele's Success has positioned his "Nuevas Ideas" party for a possible governing majority in the National Assembly after Sunday's elections. With that majority, critics will see El Salvador's commitment to the principles embodied in President Biden's Central America Plan presented during his campaign. They are the same as President Bukele's aspirations for El Salvador. Under the Biden framework, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador need to meet U.S. anti-corruption standards to qualify for economic aid and incentives to private investment. President Bukele took direct action on corruption when he went to the OAS and asked the Secretary General to establish an anti-corruption commission in El Salvador. The result is the International Commission Against Impunity in El Salvador (CICIES). His success in fighting violent crime has brought conditions for investment to one of the most open economies in the Americas, with access to 1,2 billion consumers through multiple free trade agreements.

Few leaders could withstand the scrutiny President Bukele has endured nor the scorn of the establishment. Long-dominant political parties have resisted change and sought to undermine and even remove the president from power. To question the free press in El Salvador, one would have to avoid reading any newspaper or listening to radio, or TV news. It is a relentless front-page attack designed to undermine Bukele in order to preserve the status quo ante. The media is entirely free to attack. President Bukele's response is to harness social media to maintain a dialog with citizens.

The authors and their sympathizers misread one of the most exciting moments in El Salvador's democratic evolution. In fact, many of us in El Salvador see this moment as the final stage of a process with origins in the civil war. By breaking with the political parties that emerged out of the former combatants in favor of a forward thinking democratic reformer - it is safe to say that a new era is underway in El Salvador.

Felix Ulloa  
Vice President, El Salvador